



McGraw Research Ranch 2003 Fact Sheet



photo courtesy Ruth McGraw

McGraw Ranch Road is privately owned. Failure to abide by roadside regulatory signs will lead to eviction.

Because the complex is limited to 2,000 gallons of water per day, residents must receive advanced, written permission to have overnight guests.

The Facility

Each researcher will be assigned a private or shared room. Two cabins are single occupancy with private baths; four are private rooms with shared baths; two are shared rooms with shared baths. Each cabin has a closet, bed, desk, chair, small dresser, and lamps.

The main house has two kitchen stations that include an electric range/oven, refrigerator, sink, microwave, dishwasher, and storage cabinets. Cookware and dishes are provided. Food is not provided. Limited laundry facilities are available on site.

The computer lab has four plug-in areas with two shared phone lines for dial-up internet access. Computers are not provided. A shared printer is provided.

The field lab includes a pH meter, conductance meter, balance, microscopes, dishwasher, freezer, and refrigerator. Any chemicals brought to or used in the lab are subject to government regulations.

There is limited storage capacity in each of the rooms. Small items may be kept in locked cabinets provided by the park. The researcher must provide the lock. Large items may be kept in the barn's storage room, which has a common lock. Common storage is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Rates

The 2003 rate is \$54.08/bi-weekly. Rent is due in advance (corresponding to federal government pay periods), and cannot be prorated for partial pay periods. The first two weeks rent is due upon check-in. Payment is by check made payable to the National Park Service.

Reservations

To make a reservation, a researcher must have a valid, signed research permit. Only researchers (principal investigators and assistants) listed on a current RMNP Research Permit or NPS employees or volunteers on special assignments are permitted to stay overnight. Preference is granted to researchers needing long-term (eight weeks or more) accommodations. Reservations must be made through Research Administration at ROMO_Research_Administration@nps.gov. Researchers should also contact the ranch office at least one week in advance of arrival to establish a check-in time. Failure to do so may result in a room being reassigned to another occupant. Check-in hours are between 7am and 7pm. Day-use of the facility must be arranged through the ranch staff.

What to bring

Occupants will need to bring their own linens (mattress sizes vary), food (in rodent-proof containers), computer, special field equipment, and sundries.

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Communications

Cell phones do not work at McGraw Ranch. While phone lines are available for voice and dial-up internet access, no long distance service is provided. Non-NPS personnel are not permitted to use NPS computers. U.S. Mail can be addressed to McGraw Ranch, %Rocky Mountain National Park, 1000 Highway 36, Estes Park, CO 80517.

Housekeeping

Each occupant will be responsible for leaving his/her room clean and orderly upon departure. This is not a hotel and the National Park Service will not clean up after you. This responsibility extends to the common area. A list of general housekeeping chores is posted in the laundry room, and every resident will complete at least one chore from the list, at least once every other day. This is a condition of occupancy. Some cleaning supplies, including vacuum cleaners, are available for use.

Cooking or the use of hot plates, coffee makers, hot pots, or similar appliances is not allowed in the bedrooms. There is a serious concern regarding attracting rodents. Food, plant material, and other perishables should be stored in closed containers at all times and should **NEVER** be stored in the cabins. All kitchen appliances are to be used only for the preparation of food meant for human consumption and not for conducting experiments. Collected specimens should be stored in lab refrigerators or in other storage by arrangement.

Smoking

Smoking is not allowed in any building at McGraw Ranch.

Pets

Pets are not allowed in buildings at McGraw Ranch and may not be left outside or in vehicles overnight.

Accessibility

The kitchen, laundry, work room, conference room, computer lab, one cabin, and field lab are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Researchers should discuss special needs when making a reservation.

Travel to and from McGraw Ranch

The closest airport is Denver International. Because McGraw Research Ranch sits six miles northeast of Estes Park, a private car is necessary. Access is via an unpaved, narrow, steep, private road. The 20 mph speed limit **must** be obeyed at all times. Exceeding the speed limit is grounds for eviction.

Parking

An agreement with the road owners restricts the number of parking spaces available to researchers and to visitors. If necessary, the ranch ranger will assign parking spaces. Visitors must park on the road between the designated signs. Bicycles may be stored in the barn; bicycles are not to be stored inside rooms.

